

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION

ORDER 97-040

NPDES NOs. CA0029050, CA0005517

RESCISSION OF WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR:

MARE ISLAND NAVAL SHIPYARD  
HYDRAULIC MAINTENANCE DREDGING AND SPOILS DISPOSAL  
VALLEJO, SOLANO COUNTY

MARE ISLAND NAVAL SHIPYARD  
POWER PLANT AND DRY DOCKS  
VALLEJO, SOLANO COUNTY

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Francisco Bay Region  
(hereinafter the Board) finds that:

1. The Department of the Navy, Mare Island Naval Shipyard, hereinafter called the discharger, operated four dry docks, a power plant and seven dredge disposal ponds in Mare Island, Solano County.
2. The Board, on September 18, 1991, adopted Waste Discharge Requirements, NPDES Permit Order No. 91-127 for the Department of the Navy to discharge waste water associated with hydraulic maintenance dredging and spoils disposal.
3. The Board, on August 21, 1991, adopted Waste Discharge Requirements, NPDES Permit Order No. 91-122 for the Department of the Navy to discharge waste water associated with the operation of the power plant and dry docks.
4. The discharger performed maintenance dredging in Mare Island Strait on a nearly continuous basis since 1914. The discharger dredged about 600,000 cubic yards per year of material primarily by hydraulic dredging methods and disposed the dredged material in seven disposal ponds totaling about 510 acres.
5. The discharger discharged a maximum of 2.5 million gallons per day (mgd) of decanted water from these disposal ponds into the marsh area adjacent to San Pablo Bay.
6. The discharger also repaired and performed maintenance on various sea going vessels in four graving dock type dry docks and operated a power plant. Waste from these operations was discharged into Mare Island Strait in San Pablo Bay.

7. The wastes from the dry docks and power plant consisted of the following:

Waste 001 consisted of 2.6 mgd of power plant non-contact cooling water. This waste was discharged through a separate shoreline outfall into the Strait.

Waste 002 consisted of an intermittent discharge used to carry ships in and out of dry dock No. 1 (8 million gallons) and No. 2 (17.8 million gallons).

Waste 003 consisted of an intermittent discharge used to carry ships in and out of Dry Docks No. 3 (19.5 million gallons) and No. 4 (7.5 million gallons).

Waste 004 consisted of runoff from pressure washing of vessel hulls in Dry Docks No. 1 and No. 2.

Waste 005 consisted of seepage into Dry Docks No. 1 and No. 2 which must be periodically pumped out. The average flow was 0.7 mgd.

Waste 006 consisted of runoff from pressure washing of vessel hulls in Dry Docks No. 3 and No. 4.

Waste 007 consisted of seepage into Dry Docks No. 3 and No. 4 which must be periodically pumped out. The average flow is 1.0 mgd.

Waste 002 through 007 may also contain non-contact cooling water from vessels in the dry docks. Stormwater falling into the dry docks was also discharged through the dry dock pumping systems. Wastes from Dry Docks No. 1 and No. 2, and wastes from Dry Docks No. 3 and No. 4 were discharged via separated shoreline outfalls into Mare Island Strait.
8. U.S. Navy closed Mare Island Shipyard on April 1, 1996, and ceased operation of the dry docks, power plant and dredge ponds. Currently, there is no wastewater associated with industrial activities discharged from these areas except areas surrounding and including Dry Dock No. 2 and Dry Dock No. 3.
9. Pegasus Incorporated leased Dry Dock No. 2 and No. 3 from the City of Vallejo and operates a ship dismantling facility under a separated NPDES Permit. The U.S. Navy is included in that NPDES permit as a secondary discharger.
10. The rescission of Waste Discharge Requirements for this discharge is exempt from the provisions of Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 21000 of Division 13) of the Public Resources Code (CEQA) pursuant to Section 13389 of the California Water Code.
11. The Board has notified U.S. Navy and interested agencies and persons of its intent to rescind waste discharge requirements, and has provided them with an

opportunity for a public hearing and an opportunity to submit their written views and recommendations.

12. The Board, in a public meeting, heard and considered all comments pertaining to the rescission of waste discharge requirements for the above discharge.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Orders No. 91-122 and No. 91-127 are rescinded.

I, Loretta K. Barsamian, Executive Officer do hereby certify the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Francisco Bay Region on March 19, 1997.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Loretta K. Barsamian".

Loretta K. Barsamian  
Executive Officer